

proceed as smoothly as it has without the help of Farm Service Agency staff members brought in from all over the State of Oregon. These talented and committed individuals assisting the Klamath Falls office are: Lois Loop, Janice Knutz, Linda Miller, Kelsey Hanning, Toni Williams, Ilene Berry, Patti Anderson, Charley Newhouse, Alycia McCord, Marty Hamilton, Bret Harris, and Lee Go.

Delivering these urgently needed funds to Klamath Basin farmers in a fair, accurate, and efficient manner is a monumental task. What makes this effort even more remarkable is the fact that the program for disbursing the funds, designed by State Office Specialist Fred Ringler, does not require one dime in administrative fees for the Farm Service Agency.

Mr. Speaker, we should all take pride in this selfless group of federal workers whose tireless efforts have made the difference between despair and hope for so many of the farmers in the Klamath Basin. They truly represent the best of what our government stands for. Their hearts are guided by compassion and they have the personal commitment to do their job to the fullest, regardless of the extreme effort required. I offer them both my praise and my most sincere gratitude for caring for the farmers in the Klamath Basin who have faced such significant trials.

Many hurdles remain in the path of Klamath farmers, and I am delighted that the Oregon Farm Service Agency will be working with us throughout the challenges that lie ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN STEWART
NIEDERER

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity today to pay tribute to Martin Stewart Niederer.

Martin Niederer was young, he was a hard worker, a loyal citizen, and represented the bright, young future of America—the next generation. Martin's life was robbed from him, and from us, by the hand of terrorists—radical extremists, seeking to rule the world by instilling fear and spreading hatred. Henrico, and indeed the entire Richmond area, has experienced a great loss. Our entire community mourn along with Martin Niederer's parents and his loved ones.

On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, a precious life was ripped from our midst. Martin Niederer forged his way as a leader—in his case, a leader in the center of the world's economic capital. Sadly, Martin Niederer reported for work on September 11, as he always did, to Cantor Fitzgerald at the World Trade Center—only on that day, America was to become victim to a set of horrific terrorist atrocities. Martin was conducting the nation's economic business, when he and the World Trade Center were attacked.

Because Mr. Niederer lived as a symbol of American greatness and success, he was at-

tacked. Not because he, as an individual, was hated, but because he stood with his colleagues as a symbol of America's prosperity and our democracy. We owe Martin Niederer for paying our price for freedom. We must forever honor his memory. Mr. Niederer's memory will be honored as America secures its future, fights against a maniacal hatred of freedom and human rights, and continues to demonstrate strength.

AMERICAN HEROES AT PENTAGON
FROM BAKERSFIELD AND KERN
COUNTY

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the real contributions of many individuals from California's 21st District to the relief effort because of the horrible tragedy on September 11, 2001. I am continually encouraged by the courageous and unselfish acts of our communities.

Yesterday, I visited a group of American heroes at the Pentagon. Over the past two weeks, a tireless and dedicated crew of 11 firefighters and Forest Service personnel from Bakersfield and Kern County in California has helped with the rescue and cleanup efforts at the Pentagon. Facing, long days of work in a stressful environment, they kept their resolve. The display of internal fortitude by these heroes serves as a great example of generosity and selflessness.

Soon, this talented and brave group returns home, and I would like to express my appreciation to Steve Gage, Kevin Harper, Nick Dunn, Ken Stevens, Bob Klinoff, Bob Lehtreck, Dean Clason, Pat Caprioli, Steve Shoemaker, Jim Scritchfield, and Dan Kleinman for all their hard work in assisting with the rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon. I would also like to thank their families for the sacrifices they also endured during these uncertain times.

I am extremely proud of these firefighters and our communities for the compassion shown to the victims of this horrific act of terrorism. The blood, sweat, and tears shed throughout our history in the quest for life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness have never been in vain. That is why I am certain the American people will rise to the occasion and triumph in these most trying of times. Together, there are no difficulties we cannot overcome as the greatest example of freedom and democracy in the world.

THE SAFE SKIES ACT OF 2001

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, by now we are all aware of the events that took place on

September 11th and the many actions that took place before the tragedy. One circumstance that I found troubling was many of the terrorists at the controls of the commercial airliners used in the attacks received training in our own flight training schools.

The United States attracts men and women from throughout the world looking to acquire the skills needed to pilot an aircraft. There are several factors that make the United States an ideal place to receive flight training: it is inexpensive to rent aircraft, fuel is reasonably priced, landing fees are nonexistent, and it is quick and easy to be accepted for flight training.

We have now witnessed firsthand the destruction that can be wrought when the skills acquired in our flight training schools are used for evil purposes. Currently, The Federal Aviation Administration does not require a background check of any type for individuals seeking civilian instruction to fly an airplane or helicopter in our nations' skies.

In order to close this loophole, I have introduced the Safe Skies Act of 2001, which will require background checks of all those seeking civilian instruction to fly airplanes or helicopters. It is my hope that we can stop international and domestic terrorist groups from using innocent and necessary skills for purposes other than innocence and necessity. Mr. Speaker, I realize not all terrorist organizations are those that infiltrate our borders from the outside, but also threaten us domestically. For that reason, we must ensure that the best information from the FBI and CIA is used to comb all civilian aviation applicants' history for criminal activity, espionage, or links to terrorist organizations.

The skies over this great land belong to its hard-working, law-abiding citizens. Let's help ensure that it stays in their hands.

RECOGNIZING THE CIVILIAN CON-
SERVATION CORPS AND NA-
TIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Civilian Conservation Corps on the occurrence of their upcoming 60th anniversary. This Saturday, ceremonies around the country will commemorate the work and sacrifice of the members of the Civilian Conservation Corps, these unsung heroes who built over 800 of America's national and state parks. In addition to these ceremonies, volunteers will work to restore original CCC projects. The achievements and contributions of the CCC to our nation are still being realized nearly sixty years after the program ended. I also would like to recognize the efforts of thousands of volunteers who will donate their time on Saturday, September 29, 2001. These volunteers, participating in National Public Lands Day, will put in a day of real work on projects ranging from trail construction and repair to habitat restoration and